ber for Vellarappilly would remember the progress we have made in the case of the Manapat Chira works; and we have also investigated and the final estimates of the Thanikudam scheme unfortunately is being held in abeyance, because of the question of the Chalakkudi diversion scheme. Certainly these irrigation works cannot be done as speedily as the construction of a building or so. Their interests are so interlinked that one has serious effects on the other. Naturally, there will be some delay in the matter of excution of big irrigation schemes. If you read the history of big irrigation schemes in the Godaveri, Mettur or any other place which you might probably remember, you will find for how many years the matter was under correspondence. In some cases it has come to more than 16 years or so. The Government can accept this resolution on this condition: If the Member wants a separate division of irrigation in the State the Government are glad to accept the recommendation, but not as a separate Head of a Department.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—I only want a separate division under a Special Officer, not independent of the Public Works Department. A separate division under an Assistant Engineer in charge of irrigation would suffice. My object is that these works referred to by the Chief Engineer, such as the Moolathara system, was suggested during the time of Mr. Bhore But all these works were kept in abeyance from 1094. My object is simply to minimise the delay and to devote more attention towards irrigation. For that a separate division is necessary. I beg leave of the House to withdraw the resolution.

The resolution was with leave withdrawn.

24. Extension of Tramway Line to Vypeen.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Sir this resolution is with regard to the proposed opening of a tramway line in Cranganur; but from a reply given by the Government this morning it seems the Madras Government have not yet decided about the scheme. Therefore, before I move the resolution, I request the Chief Engineer to explain at what stage the consideration of the proposed tramway line stands with the Government of Madras. I thought that no criticisms would be invited unless the Madras Government had already decided about it.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The tramway line is being undertaken by Mr. Perie who proposed to us the opening of a line through Cranganur. He has approached the Madras Government and they have asked us whether we have any objection for taking the line through Cranganur.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Mr. Perie has applied to the Madras Government for sanction to construct the line along

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the British coast. And the Madras Government have also called for criticisms on the project. But they have not yet passed any final orders and pending that we cannot say whether there will be a line.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—The Cranganur line entirely depends on the other?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—So I think it is premature to consider the resolution now and so I do not move this resolution at this stage.

Hence the following resolution was considered withdrawn.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—"*While appreciating whole-heartedly the change in the mentality of the Government as evidenced by the proposals to construct and maintain a tramway line along the whole length of Cranganur in continuation of the tramway line between Ponnani and Cranganur, this Council recommends to the Government to kindly extend the proposed line till the southern limits of Vypeen for affording additional facility for the development of trade and commerce in the land*".

25. Hand spinning as Cottage Industry.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, I move the resolution which runs thus: "This Council recommends to the Government to take immediate steps to organise hand-spinning as a cottage industry in selected areas in the State." Hand-spinning had been the subject of discussion both in this Council and outside several times. I do not therefore, propose to go into a detailed discussion of it to-day. There are certain facts which are either admitted or which will not be seriously disputed. I shall briefly state them. About 75% of our people are dependent upon agriculture. Their main occupation does not take up more than 6 months in the year. They very badly need a secondary occupation during the non-crop seasons. We have in India an in exhaustible supply of man power which is running to utter waste. The cultivators who form the back-bone of the country are ignorant and poor. Most of them are in the words of Mr. Garrat born in debt, live in debt and die in debt.

Under these circumstances, I submit that it is the duty of the Government to find out suitable subsidiary occupations for these poor cultivators and organise and popularise them among them so that they may enable them to supplement their agricultural income. What are those industries is the question that we have next to consider. It will not be possible to have a ready made industry for all people and for all places and conditions. The selection will largely depend upon the local

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